

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 00004 011320Z

43

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8927

S E C R E T CAIRO 0004

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG IS

SUBJECT: MISSING BODIES

REF: STATE 305225

1. I TALKED TO FAHMY TODAY ABOUT THE NINE MISSING ISRAELI BODIES. I RECALLED THAT WHEN WE LAST DISCUSSED THIS MATTER (CAIRO 12629), HE HAD PROMISED TO ASK GAMASY ABOUT IT.

2. FAHMY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD AGAIN FORGOTTEN TO DO SO. HE SAID AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED, "THE MATTER IS NOT IMPORTANT." HE RECALLED THAT HE HAD PREVIOUSLY CONVEYED HIS IMPRESSION THAT SADAT MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN AND THAT THERE ARE NO SUCH BODIES. HE HAD ONCE DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH GAMASY, WHO HAD SAID THE SAME THING. IN FACT, FAHMY THOUGHT, MAGHDOUB HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SO INFORM THE ISRAELIS AT A JOINT COMMISSION MEETING AT WHICH THE SUBJECT HAD BEEN RAISED. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, TO CHECK AGAIN WITH GAMSY.

3. I REMINDED HIM THAT THE SECRETARY, AS A RESULT OF SADAT'S SPECIFIC STATEMENT HAD INFORMED THE ISRAELIS THAT NINE OTHER BODIES HAD BEEN FOUND AND OF EGYPT'S WILLINGNESS TO RETURN THEM. THE SECRETARY'S WORD WAS THUS INVOLVED. FAHMY SAID THAT IF THERE ARE NINE SUCH BODIES, THEY WILL BE RETURNED. THE PRESIDENT, HE THOUGHT,

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MUST HAVE ERRED IN SUGGESTING NINE BODIES HAD BEEN FOUND.

HE WOULD LET ME KNOW THE RESULTS OF
HIS QUERY TO GAMASY. EILTS

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NNN

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